DISARMING OF THE JANJAWEED AND MILITIAS

No. 2

The Government of Sudan took a number of measures to disarm the Janjaweed who are outlaw groups that seek to serve by the force of arms individual and self-interests, exploiting the situation in Darfur. They are composed of members of Arab and African tribes. This is the definition which the government representative to the third round of the Abuja negotiations presented to the Secretariat of the African Union. Other steps were taken also to disarm the militias.

- 1) According to the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA), signed in Abuja on 5th May 2006, the Government shall devise a plan for the disarming of the Janjaweed and militias, to be submitted to the African Mission in Sudan (AMIS). The plan was submitted on 7th July, 2006. The Chairman of the Commission on Cease-fire of AMIS prepared his remakes on the plan and the Government will be advised of them for final drafting and then executing the plan.
- 2) In June, 2006, the local authorities of the Kas locality, Southern Darfur, established contact with Janiaweed elements in the area of Kargo. A number of 137 declared repentance from their ways after they had been offered amnesty in regard to the public right for the crimes committed by them. They also handed in their arms. Arrangements were made to rehabilate these persons and secure for them livelihoods by putting in their possession production equipment or employing them in jobs. It is worth mentioning that those persons belonged to different tribes.
- 3) The Commission on Disarmamer t, Demobilization and Rentegration made contacts with the council of Arab tribal chiefs in Darfur and it was agreed that their tribes be disarmed, according to international norms. The international community bore witness to that as the ambassadors accredited to Khartoum attended the meeting in August, 2006 in which the agreement took place.

It is to be noted that the disarmament of warring groups, as attested to by the African Union, is the most cumbersome phase after peace and during the period of implementation of the agreement. This requires of course full cooperation between the Government and the international community.

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